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ABSTRACT

Measures of powerlessness, life satisfaction, and community solidarity were used to assess the extent to which people in four rural counties in northwest Wisconsin felt integrated into their communities and society. Relationships between formal and informal social participation measures and these three subjective indicators were central to this analysis of individual well-being. In addition, independent variables of age, sex, marital status, family income, education, and occupation of head of household were used. Data analysis showed both formal (newspaper readership, contact with large cities, church attendance, activity in voluntary organizations) and informal (social visits and telephoning, attending parties, recreation activities social participation tended to increase feelings of community solidarity. However, data showed much less importance in reducing feelings of powerlessness. Consistently low zero order and partial relationships between social participation measures and life satisfaction suggested it may be difficult to explain overall satisfaction with life with social participation antecedents. Intercorrelations indicated a moderate degree of relationship between life satisfaction and community solidarity, while powerlessness had a modest relationship to community solidarity and an even smaller one to overall life satisfaction. Effects of background variables were also noted. (ES)

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COMMUNITY SOLIDARITY, ALIENATION FROM POWER AND LIFE SATISFACTION IN A RURAL REGION

There has been a renewed interest on the part of policy-makers and of social scientists in the measurement of social as well as economic well-being. (Gross, 1966; Sheldon and Moore, 1968; Duncan, 1969; Campbell and Converse, 1972; and Wilcox, 1972). Policy-makers have spurred the effort to understand better the quality of life in an attempt to assess the present state and the changes occurring in the well-being of people in different social and economic circumstances (c.f. Cohen, 1969; 1972). Social scientists have responded by turning toward development of social indicators of objective and subjective dimensions of personal and social well-being (c.f. Land, 1974). Some social scientists have taken the view that in the absence of adequate theories, indicators which are available and meaningful should be monitored to assist in policy-making (c.f. Duncan, 1969). Others take the view that indicators without theoretical justification may be misleading and ineffective (c.f. Sheldon and Land, 1970). Consequently, to understand the meaning of the quality of people's lives is an important but challenging task.

In a previous paper an attempt was made to develop a paradigm for considering the various aspects of the quality of life (Wilkening, 1974). From the individual point of view it includes the resources, the satisfaction of material needs, social interaction and exchange and psychological states. The paradigm shows how these aspects of individual well-being have counterparts at the societal level. If one is to be concerned with the durability of the quality of life, he must attend to those things which sustain the flow of goods and services throughout society, and provide the opportunities for achieving individual well-being over time. One must ask what are the requirements for the individual, natural and social systems in a society in

order for the society to satisfy the needs of its members at some optimal level. Viewed in this manner, quality of life measures necessarily deal with the dimensions of the social and cultural systems which affect the satisfaction of individual needs for survival and self-actualization.

The present paper is concerned with the quality of life as experienced by individuals and only indirectly, if at all, deals with the larger institutional and cultural systems which affect well-being. We do not, however, deny the relevance of such systems for individual well-being. We merely feel that it may be helpful to use somewhat different indicators than those which serve to monitor societal processes, if one is concerned with understanding the conditions of individual attainment and satisfaction.

In selecting indicators of the quality of individuals' lives one must consider the role of both objective and subjective measures of individual well-being and how they bear on one another. In making their case for considering the subjective meanings of objective conditions, Campbell and Converse (1972) note that subjective indicators are needed for choosing between alternative means for attaining given societal goals. Hornback and Shaw (1973) support the argument for subjective indicators but note that no one has developed an adequate means of combining objective and subjective indicators for use by policymakers.

The paper focuses on subjective indicators of well-being that assess the extent to which a sample of rural Wisconsinites feel integrated into their communities and into their society. These subjective measures were chosen because of their previous use in the sociological literature and their tentative theoretical importance. Included are measures of powerlessness, life satisfaction and community solidarity. A central theme of the analysis is to

examine the relationships between a series of both formal and informal social participation measures and the indicators of community solidarity, powerlessness and life satisfaction. This is done in an attempt to note the effect of qualitative differences in social participation on the indicators of subjective well-being.

Indicators of subjectively experienced well-being essentially relate to the phenomenon of alienation, the twentieth century content of which has developed from the thought of sociologists such as Toqueville, Weber, Durkheim and Simmel (Nisbet, 1966:264-265). Contemporary sociology has drawn from Marx for the term itself, and from those who currently are trying to understand the meaning of alienation in its Marxian sense (c.f. Ollman: 1971), Yet the measures of alienation, or its converse-integration, in current use have tended to reflect, a somewhat different relationship between people and their communities or society than that which stems from the Marxian tradition. Using scales that measure anomia, social isolation, satisfaction with work, powerlessness, etc., the emphasis has been on feelings of estrangement from other people, political power, societal norms and the like. The suggestion has been that the severing of ties with family, community, and polity resulting from industrialization has left people isolated from one another in modern society. The consequence for individuals has been a diminished sense of efficacy, esteem or acceptance, expressed in various ways. The indicators we have chosen to measure the respondents' feelings of well-being are more clearly a part of this avenue of inquiry than of any other.

The empirical literature suggesting tentative antecedents or subjective indicators like those used in the present analyses has been reviewed extensively by Lystad (1972), Schacht (1972), Seeman (1972), Robinson (1969) and Wilson (1967). In brief the literature suggests a number of relationships be-

tween measures of personal status and attainment and subjective measures of well-being. For example, disrupted marital status and low income have tended to produce higher reported dissatisfaction and unhappiness as has higher age, although the effects of age tend to be attenuated when effects of marital status are held constant. As income and education increase, feelings of satisfaction taken generally, have increased as well. Sex, religious affiliation and geographic differences, on the other hand, appear to have had minimal effects. Involvement in leisure-time activities and social participation, such as involvement in voluntary associations, church attendance, etc. have tended to increase satisfaction with life as well.

It has also been noted that feelings of alienation from power, or powerlessness, have tended to be inversely related to measures of socioeconomic status, with persons of higher status tending to feel less alienated from power. Education has been found to be particularly important in mitigating feelings of powerlessness. Also, older people and blacks may also feel more alienated from power than middle-aged persons and whites. Social participation in general and involvement in voluntary associations in particular also has tended to reduce feelings of alienation from power. In addition, characteristics of one's work experience have tended to affect such feelings of powerlessness. Sex apparently has had no impact on feelings of alienation nor has one's place of residence.

Social involvement, usually in work-related organizations, has been shown to be related to various subjective measures designed to tap feelings of integration into society (c.f. Hodge, 1971; Phillips, 1969; Nelson, 1968; Phillips, 1967; Photiadis, 1967; Neal and Seeman, 1964; Erbe, 1964). Yet at the operational level, many measures of social integration at the societal level have been characterized as indicators of alienation and vice versa. The

arguments of Rossi (1972:94) for turning toward community level measures of subjectively experienced well-being[2] and preliminary previous experience with a measure of community solidarity (Martinson et. al., 1974) suggested that such a measure was a suitable supplement to previous measures of alienation/integration. While the scale to assess feelings of community solidarity has been employed among rural people, it appears to have utility for nonrural settings as well. And with the community as its referent, the measure may be more meaningful for specifying the kinds of participation activities that engender feelings of well-being than more abstract measures of well-being that lack specific referents.

In general it is expected that feelings of community solidarity will be positively associated with informal social participation measures, while feelings of powerlessness will be negatively associated with formal participation. Feelings of overall life satisfaction are expected to be positively associated with both formal and informal social participation antecedents. Since social participation taken generally is related to age, sex, and indices of socio-economic status, the relationships between the measures of social participation and well-being also will be examined holding constant the effects of these variables in order to note whether the expected relationships remain.

The present analyses differ from previous research on life satisfaction, alienation and other measures of subjectively experienced feelings of well-being in two ways. The first is that in contrast to much of the previous research, the sample of respondents is from different locations within a rural region, focusing our analyses on feelings of well-being among rural people. Second, the analysis attempts to examine relationships between the dependent measures and their social participation antecedents in order, to evaluate the alternative measures of subjectively experienced well-being and the par-

ticipatory activities which precede them. The analyses reported here thus contribute to our understanding of the "human meaning of social change" by focusing on the dimensions of subjectively experienced well-being within a predominantly rural area, and on qualitative differences among their tentative social participation antecedents.

DATA AND METHODS

The data for the subsequent analyses is from a pilot survey conducted in four Northwest Wisconsin counties during the summer of 1973. The purpose of the survey was to develop and refine indicators for measuring various aspects of the quality of people's lives. The four counties in which the pilot survey was conducted were chosen to represent the social, economic and environmental diversity found in the northwestern part of Wisconsin.

The population from which the sample was drawn consisted of all non-institutionalized adults who were living in each county and whose permanent residence was within the county. An adult was defined as any person 18 years of age or older. Permanent residents were those who considered their residence not to be merely a temporary or summer home, but their "real" home. Adult children living with their parents were included in the hypothetical sampling frame as were students who lived at home. Members of families who were present in permanent residences within the counties, but did not consider themselves permanent residents, were excluded from the hypothetical sampling frame. The sampling was done with the assistance of the Wisconsin Survey Research Laboratory and used techniques which resulted in a probability sample of adults from each of the counties which was proportional to the county's population. The overall response rate was 81 percent, with the rate being slightly higher among rural persons for the overall sample. All response rate percentages were calculated after excluding vacant residences from the

sampling frame. The sample size was 396 respondents.

The dependent variables used in the analyses reported here were multiple item scales designed to measure different dimensions of the respondents' subjectively experienced well-being. Included were scales to measure alienation from power, community solidarity and overall satisfaction with one's life.

The overall life satisfaction scale was composed of questionnaire items used in previous Quality of Life survey research done by the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan (c.f. Marans and Rodgers, 1972; Andrews and Withey, 1973). The items from ISR asked about satisfaction with life as a whole, satisfaction with accomplishments and feelings of happiness. The latter three items constituted the scale used in the analysis to be discussed subsequently.[3]

The community solidarity scale was based on work by Fessler (1953) and modified for research on Wisconsin corporate farming (Rodefeld, 1974; Martinson et. al., 1974).[4] The scale used by Neal and Rettig (1963) and Neal and Seeman (1964) after examination of the factor analytic explorations of alienation indicators done by Streuning and Richardson (1965) and by Neal and Rettig (1967).[5]

The independent variables tentatively considered to be antecedents of the measures of subjective well-being were of two main types. The first type was a series of informal and formal social participation measures, while the second type consisted of the control variables of age, sex, marital status, family income, education and occupation of head of the respondent's household.

Four measures of informal social participation were based on questions which asked about the frequency with which the respondent visited with friends and neighbors, used the telephone for "social" purposes, attended parties

given by other people, and engaged in recreation activities with friends. The answers were ordinal categories which were scored from one to five to produce quasi-interval scales.

Four measures of formal social participation included two quasi-interval measures of readership of newspapers, self-reports about the frequency of contact with large cities, a measure of church attendance, and a scale to measure involvement in voluntary associations. The measure of involvement in voluntary associations was a summated score based on how many organizations the respondent belonged to, how often he attended organization meetings, and whether or not he had been an organization officer during the past five years.

The background variables of respondent's age and level of education were measured in years; family income was measured in thousands of dollars per year; sex was measured as a dummy variable, as were a location variable which incorporated places of residence (e.g. rural open country, village, small city), and a measure of whether the respondent was married. An occupation variable, consisting of dummy variables for high white-collar, low white-collar, blue-collar, and farm occupations of the household head, and a residual category for missing data and household heads outside the labor force was also included.

The statistical analysis was done through the use of correlation and multiple regression statistical programs, which are available as part of the STATJOB series of packaged statistical programs used by the Univac 1110 computer at the Madison Academic Computing Center.

FINDINGS

The quality of people's lives, as has been noted earlier in a somewhat illusive entity to examine. The subjective indicators of well-being to be dis-

cussed in the present analysis are attitude scales which attempt to measure (1) a general sense of satisfaction with one's life, (2) feelings of community solidarity and, (3) the degree of feeling alienated from power. Each scale was intended to tap a different attitudinal area bearing on the subjective quality of the life that people experience.

A brief methodological discussion of the subjective indicators is included in order to assess the reliability and validity of the indicators included in the analysis. Since indicators of personal well-being and quality of life are still being developed and refined, it is important to indicate operationalizations of the measures used here.

The item intercorrelations, means and standard deviations for each of the scales appear in Table 1 while the scale intercorrelations, means,

[Table 1 about here]

standard deviations and measures of scale internal consistency appear in Table 2. The measures of internal consistency suggest that the reliability

[Table 2 about here]

of the scales is relatively high, as inspection of the Cronbach's alpha for each scale indicates. The alphas range from .752 for the alienation from power scale to .894 for the community solidarity scale.

One indication of the validity of the scales is shown by the scale intercorrelations. The scale intercorrelations (Table 2) indicate a moderate degree of relationship between the life satisfaction scale and the community solidarity scale. The alienation from power scale bears a modest relationship to the community solidarity scale, and an even smaller relationship to the overall life satisfaction scale. General feelings of life satisfaction are mainly related to feeling integrated into one's community. To infer that solidarity precedes satisfaction or vice versa is of course inappropriate given the ex-

clusion of antecedent variables at this point. Somewhat surprisingly, feeling satisfied or dissatisfied with one's life apparently is unrelated to feeling alienated from power. Also surprising is the modest relationship between feelings of community solidarity and feeling alienated from power, although similar findings occurred in previous research of the authors (see Martinson et. al., 1974). Thus the scale interrelationships suggest that feelings of life satisfaction, community solidarity, and alienation from power may be distinct attitudinal areas that reflect different aspects of a general sense of subjective well-being.

An additional indication of the validity of the life satisfaction can be seen in the results from regressing the overall life satisfaction scale on a set of questionnaire items asking about satisfaction with specific life domains of the respondent (Table 3). Five of the ten specific life domain items

[Table 3 about here]

have a statistically significant net effect on the overall life satisfaction scale, and explain 53 percent of the variance in it. This amount of variance explained is virtually the same as that reported in previous work on perceived life quality measures (c.f. Andrews, 1974). Of the five items which are related to overall life satisfaction, the highest relative net contribution comes from satisfaction with income and money matters as inspection of the standardized regression coefficients indicates. The next most relatively important item is satisfaction with family life, which is followed by satisfaction with spare time activities, handling problems and standard of living. The pattern is generally similar to the work reported by Andrews and Withey (1973), although the specific ranking produced by the standardized regression coefficients (Table 3) is different. [Personal efficacy ranks first among the items of Andrews and Withey, while income and money matters ranks

highest for the present sample.]

Examination of the relationships of the community solidarity scale and the powerlessness scale to other variables measuring selected characteristics of the respondents perceptions of their communities and satisfaction with specific aspects of their life provides additional information on the validity of these scale as well (Table 4). Community solidarity is related

[Table 4 about here]

to voting in the respondent's last local election, perception of influence on local political decisions and feelings that newcomers would be easily accepted into the respondent's community. These relationships suggest that the more community solidarity the respondent feels, the more likely it is that he votes in local elections, feels he has influence on local decisions and believes that newcomers will be easily assimilated into his community. Alienation from power, in partial contrast, is related only to perceptions of influence on local decisions, with those who feel powerless also feeling that they have little influence on local decision-making. Perhaps surprisingly, alienation from power is unrelated to whether or not the respondent reported that he voted in the last local election.

The correlations of these scales with selected specific satisfaction measures also bear on their validity. Community solidarity is related to the respondents' satisfaction with their friendships and with their neighborhood, and with the national government, although satisfaction with the national government has only a modest relationship. Feeling alienated from power is related only to satisfaction with the national government, with the inverse direction of the correlation indicating that those who feel alienated are not satisfied with the government, and vice versa. These data suggest that the community solidarity and alienation from power scales also are valid measures

of a person's subjective well-being.

Next are reported the findings which explore relationships among the subjective indicators of well-being and the measures of formal and informal social participation included in the analyses. The general substantive assumption underlying the analyses is that measures of formal and informal social participation are related to subjective measures of personal well-being, at the zero order level and when the differences in the respondents' backgrounds are held constant.

The zero-order correlations between each of the dependent variables and the social participation measures appear in Table 5. All the social partici-

[Table 5 about here]

pation measures are related to feelings of community solidarity at the .05 level of statistical significance. The strongest relationship is the one between community solidarity and visiting with friends and relatives, (r=.213) while the weakest one is between the solidarity measure and personal contact with large cities (r=.111). We note that while both the informal and formal measures of participation appear to be related to feelings of community solidarity, there seem to be no systematic differences between the two types of antecedents.

The zero-order relationships between the powerlessness scale and the two types of antecedents differ somewhat from those previously noted in that personal contact with large cities, attending parties given by others, and talking to friends on the telephone apparently are unrelated to powerlessness. The pattern of zero-order correlations is consistent with our expectation that formal participation is more likely to mitigate feelings of powerlessness than is informal participation, although church attendance and contact with large

cities are exceptions. Media participation and involvement in voluntary associations have consistently higher correlations with feelings of powerlessness than do visiting with friends, engaging in recreation activities with others, and the other informal participation measures.

Perhaps most surprising is the finding that at the zero-order level, only involvement with voluntary associations seems to have any great effect ($r=.174$) on feelings of satisfaction with life. Additionally, only contact with large city newspapers ($r=.127$), visiting with friends and relatives ($r=.130$, attending parties ($r=.125$), and recreationing with others ($r=.134$) are related at the .05 level, with modest relationships at best.

The partial correlations between each of the indicators of well-being and the social participation measures also appear in Table 5. Looking first at those for the community solidarity scale, it can be seen that almost all the informal and the formal social participation measures continue to retain statistically significant relationships when the effects of the respondent's background (i.e. age, education, income, occupation, sex, marital status, and place of residence) are held constant. Only the relationship between contact with large cities and community solidarity fails to reach statistical significance. Moreover, the pattern of relationships between the social participation measures and the community solidarity scale is essentially the same as the one at the zero-order level, although a comparison of the zero-order and partial correlations indicates that the respondent's background characteristics tend to suppress the effects of social participation on feelings of community solidarity. (This is inferred from the fact that all partial correlations are larger than their zero-order counterparts.)

When the relationships between the social participation measures and the powerlessness scale are considered, controlling for the effects of the respond-

ent's background, it can be seen that the effects of formal participation are attenuated considerably. Moreover the modest, though statistically significant, relationships between the informal participation indicators and the powerlessness scale appearing at the zero-order level disappear when the controls for background characteristics are introduced. Although the partial relationships are consistent with our expectations, the attenuation of relationships implies that the personal characteristics of the respondents may be a more important source of feelings of powerlessness than their formal social participation activities.

Examination of the partial correlations between the social participation measures and the life satisfaction scale indicates no striking differences in the effects of participation on feelings of overall life satisfaction when the respondent's background characteristics are held constant. The respondent's background seems to suppress the effects of recreation activities with others, but other appreciable differences between the partial correlations and their zero-order counterparts are nonexistent.

Although the net effects of the background variables were not the focal point of the analyses, there were some findings on their net effects which should be mentioned. First of all, we found that, regardless of the participation measure, family income and the occupation of the head of the respondent's household exerted no net effects on any of the indicators of well-being. Education exerted net negative effects only on feelings of powerlessness in conjunction with all the participation measures. Age retained net positive effects on feelings of community solidarity only in conjunction with the informal social participation measures. We also found, based on statistically significant partial correlations, that married respondents apparently felt more satisfied with life than unmarried ones, regardless of the social participation measure being examined. The respondent's sex retained net effects only in con-

junction with church attendance and contact with large cities, with males tending to feel more solidarity than females. Finally we found that whether the respondent lived in the rural open country, a village or in a small city made no difference in his or her feelings of community solidarity, powerlessness or life satisfaction.

DISCUSSION

There are distinct patterns of relationship between the social participation measures and each of the indicators of subjectively experienced well-being. Perhaps most important is the finding that not all measures of alienation, integration, or satisfaction have the same antecedents. Although we expected that only informal participation would be related to feelings of community solidarity, we found that both types of social participation appear to exert an influence on such feelings. Conversely social participation may be much less important for alleviating feelings of powerlessness, given the decreases in the relationships when background was held constant. Even the effects of involvement in voluntary associations on powerlessness were diminished when control variables were introduced. The consistently low zero order and partial relationships between the social participation measures and the life satisfaction scale, suggest, moreover, that it may be difficult to explain (at least statistically) feelings of overall satisfaction with life with social participation antecedents. As the data suggested earlier, the scales apparently do tap somewhat different aspects of the respondents' feelings of well-being.

It may be charged that the analyses reported merely belabor the obvious. Examination of the previous sociological literature which has used various measures oriented toward understanding the human meaning of social change suggests otherwise. The assumption that integration is the converse of aliena-

tion is basic to much of the empirical work dealing with a person's sense of belonging to important social formations or feelings of estrangement from them. However, if different antecedents explain different dimensions of subjectively experienced well-being, this implies that perhaps additional attention should be given to the understanding of well-being. Feelings of estrangement from specific aspects of life, feelings of being able to affiliate with others within meaningful contexts, and overall satisfaction with life may each require, in other words, different explanations at the conceptual level.

The finding that the respondent's place of residence within the largely nonurban geographic region from which the sample was drawn apparently has no effect on feelings of well-being may not be too surprising. The characteristics of particular communities could be more important than the open-country, village, and small city trichotomy that was used to designate place of residence. The use of variables such as distance from urban places, availability of services, etc. might characterize more accurately the part that geographic and locational contexts play in determining feelings of well-being, than would a simple rural-urban or other place-of-residence type of measure.

The fact that social participation tends to increase feelings of community solidarity suggests that we ought to consider the antecedents of various types of social participation if we are to understand more fully the processes that enhance such feelings. That such feelings are interesting and important for the viability of communities follows from the relationships reported earlier between community solidarity and voting in local elections, feeling that newcomers will be easily accepted, and feeling satisfied with one's friendships. Causal modelling of background variables, social participation measures, feelings of solidarity, and political involvement indicators may be a suitable

method for unravelling the important interrelationships among feelings of solidarity, and their antecedents and consequences.

The findings regarding feelings of powerlessness also point toward additional analyses. The attenuation of the relationships between the participation measures and powerlessness when the respondent's background(primarily his or her education) is held constant suggest linking feelings of powerlessness to variables found in models of social mobility and status attainment. Using such a model to subsequently explain political involvement and satisfaction with the political system might be an additional step toward understanding the importance of this aspect of subjectively experienced well-being.

Feelings of satisfaction with life seem to be the most intractable dimension of well-being of the three being considered here. The influence of social participation is modest at best, and only marital status appears to exert any additional influence. The problem may lie in the use of the general indicator of overall satisfaction, which has no specific referent and in the shortcomings of indicators that ask the informant directly about his feeling-state.

The implications for future research are that subjectively experienced well-being must be measured in ways that produce scales and indicators which are reliable, yet meaningful to the lives of the respondents. The use of indicators of well-being that are grounded in the sociological literature, and the assessment of causes and consequences of such feelings appear to be a useful way to proceed. Additional contextual variables and need hierarchies of people differentially located in the social structure must be considered as well. In this way a more adequate understanding of the quality of people's lives can be developed.

Footnotes

[2]Rossi (1972:94) defines community solidarity as follows: "The solidarity of a residential locality designates the extent to which residents in the locality identify themselves as similar in some significant way to other residents. In this connection we can distinguish between total solidarity, designating the extent and strength of trends of identification with all of the residents of a locality, and segmental solidarity, the extent and strength of bonds of identification with subgroups of residents in a locality. Note that solidarity is at least a large part of the global concept of community, especially when the commensalistic aspects of community are stressed." The scale that was used to measure community solidarity corresponds more closely to the 'total solidarity' aspect of community solidarity than to the 'segmental solidarity' aspect.

[3]The general life satisfaction scale items were worded in the following manner:

a. How do you feel about your life as a whole?

b. How do you feel about the way you handle problems which come up?

c. Satisfaction and happiness are not really the same. In general how happy would you say you are these days?

All three items had seven-point Likert-type responses, ranging from completely satisfied to completely dissatisfied for the first two items, and ranging from extremely happy to very unhappy for the third item.

[4]The community solidarity scale items were worded as follows:

a. Usually I feel free to stop by and visit with most people around here.

b. I feel at home most anywhere in this community.

c. I do not mind asking favors or help from almost anyone in this community.

d. I know the people living around here quite well.

e. Most of the time I do not really feel like a member of this community.

All responses were five-point Likert-type responses, ranging from agree strongly to disagree strongly with an 'undecided' category in the middle. The scoring was reversed on item e in order to allow summation of the respondent's item scores.

[5]The alienation from power scale consisted of the following items:

a. This world is run by the few people in power and there is not much the little guy can do about it.

b. Persons like me have little chance of protecting our personal interests when they conflict with those of strong pressure groups.

c. The average citizen can have an influence on government decisions.

The responses were the same as those for the community solidarity scales, with the last item reversed scored to allow summation of the item scores.

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Table 1. Item Intercorrelations, Means, and Standard Deviations for Selected Scales Northwest Wisconsin Survey, 1973

	Scale	1	2	3	4	$\bar{X}$	S.D.
	General Life Satisfaction						
1	Satisfaction with accomplishments					2,6142	1.0525
2	Satisfaction with life as a whole	.640				2,4025	.97559
3	Happiness in general	.481	.534			2.5627	.92849
	Alienation From Power						
1	World run by the powerful-little guy can't do much					3.2321	1.1619
2	Have little protection from strong interest groups	.618				3.3130	1.0406
3	Average citizen can influence government decisions	.402	.353			2.6692	.99103
	Community Solidarity						
1	Feel free to visit people around here					2.0152	.83074
2	Feel at home anywhere in community	.512				2.1949	.86381
3	Can seek help from anyone around here	.480	.476			2.6051	1.0403
(4)	Know the people well	.437	.399	.405		2.1519	.93831
(5)	Don't feel like a community member	.443	.446	.428	.488	2.1294	.84468

Table 2. Scale Intercorrelations, Means, Standard Deviations and Alpha Coefficients for Three Subjective Indicators of Well-being, Northwest Wisconsin Survey, 1973

Scale	1	2	3	$\bar{X}$	S.D.	Alpha
1 General Life Satisfaction				7.5884	2.4700	.787
2 Community Integration	.344			11.093	3.3781	.894
3 Alienation from Power	-.133	-.183		9.222	2.5510	.752

Table 3. Regression of the Global Life Satisfaction Scale on Specific Life Domain Items, Northwest Wisconsin Survey, 1973

Independent Variable	Regression Coefficient Raw	Regression Coefficient Standardized	Significance Level
Satisfaction with:			
Income and money matters	.474	.232	.000
Family Life	.614	.215	.000
Spare time	.423	.187	.000
Way that you handle problems	.478	.173	.000
Standard of living	.398	.166	.001
Friendships	.147	.050	.217
Neighborhood	-.120	.047	.270
Community	.109	.046	.278
Public programs	.119	.046	.225
House	.079	.037	.363
Multiple Correlation		.7361	
Corrected Coefficient of Determination		.5300	

Table 4. Zero-Order Correlations of Community Solidarity and Powerlessness Scales With Selected Community and Satisfaction Measures, Northwest Wisconsin Survey, 1973

Validating Measure	Scale	
	Community Solidarity	Alienation from Power
Community Measures		
Voted in last local election?	.231	-.076
Perceived influence on local decisions	.193	-.301
Ease of new people being accepted	.283	-.057
Satisfaction Measures		
Satisfaction with friendships	.419	.069
Satisfaction with the national government	.173	-.320
Satisfaction with neighborhood	.357	.101

Table 5. Zero-Order and Partial Correlation Coefficients Between Well-Being Indicators and Social Participation Measures, Northwest Wisconsin Survey, 1973

Social Participation Measures	Correlation Coefficients					
	Community Solidarity		Alienation		Life Satisfaction	
	Zero-Order	Partial	Zero-Order	Partial	Zero-Order	Partial
Personal contact with large cities	-.111*	-.096	-.064	.029	.035	.056
Number of daily newspapers subscribed to	.184*	.204*	-.222*	-.102*	.086	.069
Contact with large city newspaper	.159*	.166*	-.222*	-.109*	.127*	.112*
Visit friends and relatives	.213*	.243*	-.122*	-.049	.130*	.142*
Attend parties given by others	.177*	.195*	-.093	-.049	.125*	.143*
Recreation with others	.192*	.224*	-.108*	-.037	.134*	.180*
Talk to friends on telephone	.171*	.226*	.097	.098	.079	.090
Attend church	.139*	.156*	-.120*	-.108*	.052	.039
Participate in voluntary organizations	.185*	.180*	-.249*	-.118*	.174*	.161*

*t-test statistically significant at .05 level.